***Working Session: Genetic and Racial Justice***

***The Genome Project of Africa and the ‘Phenome’ Project***

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**Abstract**

I plan to critique the ‘science’ of race and neo-eugenic ideology by discussing the genome project in Africa and the ‘phenome’ project. Specifically, I plan to discuss why some population geneticists’ continued use of race in genomic studies perpetuates neo-eugenic ideology that one population is superior to another and violates the principles of justice. The superiority/inferiority belief is already apparent in the discourse about and structure of the genome project in Africa, which has the potential of being exploitive.

Furthermore, researchers focus on phenotypic traits in the ‘phenome’ project to ascertain the genetic basis of disease may lead to the reinstitution of the eugenic notion that physical traits such as skin color are relevant when disease is concerned. I will end my presentation with questions on how to address the insidious nature of neo-eugenic ideology in human biotechnology and how to provide a strong regulatory system governing the genome project in Africa and the ‘phenome’ project that will prevent neo-eugenic ideologists from misusing information garnered from these projects.